

1 This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the
2 application:
3

4 **Listing of Claims:**

5 1. (currently amended) A method for use in a computer, the method
6 comprising:

7 while booting a computer and prior to allowing a user to logon to the
8 computer, arranging for a markup language rendering engine to be loaded
9 substantially near the beginning of an operating system initialization procedure;
10 and

11 providing markup language code suitable for use with the markup language
12 rendering engine, the markup language being capable of soliciting at least one user
13 input when rendered by the markup language rendering engine, the user input
14 being associated with a user logon process configured to selectively allow a user to
15 logon to the computer.
16

17 2. (original) The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein providing
18 the markup language code further includes providing user data, the user data being
19 operatively associated with the user logon process.
20

21 3. (original) The method as recited in Claim 2, wherein the user
22 data includes data selected from a set comprising a list of users, a text identifier, a
23 graphical identifier, a password enabled identifier, and password hint data, and
24 related user information data.
25

1 4. (original) The method as recited in Claim 2, further comprising:
2 configuring the markup language rendering engine to display at least a
3 portion of the user data based on the markup language code.

4
5 5. (original) The method as recited in Claim 1, further comprising:
6 configuring the markup language code to provide the user input to an
7 authorization entity for validation determination.

8
9 6. (original) The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the user
10 input includes at least one input selected from a group of inputs comprising a user
11 name, a user identifier, and a password.

12
13 7. (original) The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the markup
14 language code includes markup language code selected from at least one markup
15 language in a group comprising hypertext markup language (HTML), Dynamic
16 Hypertext Markup Language (DHTML), eXtensible Markup Language (XML),
17 eXtensible Hypertext Markup Language (XHTML), and Standard Generalized
18 Markup Language (SGML).

1 8. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-
2 executable instructions for causing one or more processors to performing steps acts
3 comprising:

4 while booting a computer and prior to allowing a user to logon to the
5 computer, arranging for a markup language rendering engine to be loaded
6 substantially near the beginning of an operating system initialization procedure;
7 and

8 providing markup language code suitable for use with the markup language
9 rendering engine, the markup language being capable of soliciting at least one user
10 input when rendered by the markup language rendering engine, the user input
11 being associated with a user logon process configured to selectively allow a user to
12 logon to the computer.

13
14 9. (original) The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 8,
15 wherein providing the markup language code further includes providing user data,
16 the user data being operatively associated with the user logon process.

17
18 10. (original) The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 9,
19 wherein the user data includes data selected from a set comprising a list of users, a
20 text identifier, a graphical identifier, a password enabled identifier, and password
21 hint data, and related user information data.

1 11. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium as recited in
2 Claim 9, having further computer-executable instructions for performing acts
3 comprising: the step of

4 configuring the markup language rendering engine to display at least a
5 portion of the user data based on the markup language code.

6
7 12. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium as recited in
8 Claim 8, having further computer-executable instructions for performing acts
9 comprising: the step of

10 configuring the markup language code to provide the user input to an
11 authorization entity for validation determination.

12
13 13. (original) The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 8,
14 wherein the user input includes at least one input selected from a group of inputs
15 comprising a user name, a user identifier, and a password.

16
17 14. (original) The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 8,
18 wherein the markup language code includes markup language code selected from
19 at least one markup language in a group comprising hypertext markup language
20 (HTML), Dynamic Hypertext Markup Language (DHTML), eXtensible Markup
21 Language (XML), eXtensible Hypertext Markup Language (XHTML), and
22 Standard Generalized Markup Language (SGML).

1 15. (currently amended) An arrangement including a memory, a data
2 storage device, a display device, and a processor operatively coupled to the
3 memory, data storage device and the display device, the arrangement comprising:

4 a markup language rendering engine stored within the data storage device
5 and suitable for loading in the memory substantially near the beginning of an
6 operating system initialization procedure while booting a computer and prior to
7 allowing a user to logon to the computer; and

8 markup language code suitable stored in the data storage device and
9 configurable for use with the markup language rendering engine, the markup
10 language being capable of soliciting at least one user input when rendered by the
11 markup language rendering engine onto the display device, the user input being
12 associated with a user logon process configured to selectively allow a user to logon
13 to the computer.

14
15 16. (original) The arrangement as recited in Claim 15, further
16 comprising user data stored in the data storage device and configurable for use
17 with the markup language rendering engine, the user data being operatively
18 associated with the user logon process.

19
20 17. (original) The arrangement as recited in Claim 16, wherein the
21 user data includes data selected from a set comprising a list of users, a text
22 identifier, a graphical identifier, a password enabled identifier, and password hint
23 data, and related user information data.
24
25

1 18. (original) The arrangement as recited in Claim 16, wherein the
2 markup language rendering engine is further configurable to display at least a
3 portion of the user data on the display device based on the markup language code.

4
5 19. (original) The arrangement as recited in Claim 15, further
6 comprising an authorization entity stored within the data storage device, and
7 wherein the markup language rendering engine is further configurable to provide
8 the user input to the authorization entity for validation determination based on the
9 markup language code.

10
11 20. (original) The arrangement as recited in Claim 15, wherein the
12 user input includes at least one input selected from a group of inputs comprising a
13 user name, a user identifier, and a password.

14
15 21. (original) The arrangement as recited in Claim 15, wherein the
16 markup language code includes markup language code selected from at least one
17 markup language in a group comprising hypertext markup language (HTML),
18 Dynamic Hypertext Markup Language (DHTML), eXtensible Markup Language
19 (XML), eXtensible Hypertext Markup Language (XHTML), and Standard
20 Generalized Markup Language (SGML).

22. (currently amended) A method for use in booting a computer and
logging users onto the computer ~~an operating system~~, the method comprising:
prior to allowing a user to logon to a computer, loading a markup language
rendering engine substantially near the beginning of an operating system
initialization procedure;
retrieving user data from the operating system;
rendering markup language code associated with a logon screen using at
least a portion of the user data;
collecting at least one user input associated with the logon screen; and
establishing a logon session if the user input is valid.

23. (original) A method as recited in Claim 22 wherein establishing a
logon session further includes:
providing the user input to the operating system; and
causing the operating system to authenticate the user input.

24. (original) The method as recited in Claim 23, wherein
establishing a logon session further includes providing the user input to an
authorization entity for validation determination.

25. (original) The method as recited in Claim 22, wherein the user
data includes data selected from a set comprising a list of users, a text identifier, a
graphical identifier, a password enabled identifier, and password hint data, and
related user information data.

26. (original) The method as recited in Claim 22, wherein the markup language code includes markup language code selected from at least one markup language in a group comprising hypertext markup language (HTML), Dynamic Hypertext Markup Language (DHTML), eXtensible Markup Language (XML), eXtensible Hypertext Markup Language (XHTML), and Standard Generalized Markup Language (SGML).

27. (currently amended) A markup language based logon user interface arrangement for use in logging users onto ~~an operating system of~~ a computer, the user interface comprising:

a logon screen displayed while booting the computer and prior to allowing a user to logon to a computer;

a user logon area within the logon screen, the user logon area visually identifying a plurality of users using text identifiers and graphical identifiers, such that each text identifier and graphical identifier are selectable by the user through the user interface and upon selection by the user cause the user interface to prompt the user to input a password; and

a single selectable shut down mechanism graphically located within the logon screen and configured to shut the computer down when selected through the user interface by the user.

28. (original) The user interface as recited in Claim 27, wherein the logon screen is rendered substantially near the beginning of the initialization of the operating system using a markup language rendering engine.

29. (original) The user interface as recited in Claim 28, wherein the
logon screen is rendered during using markup language code selected from at least
one markup language in a group comprising hypertext markup language (HTML),
Dynamic Hypertext Markup Language (DHTML), eXtensible Markup Language
(XML), eXtensible Hypertext Markup Language (XHTML), and Standard
Generalized Markup Language (SGML).